

Example of a Doctor

Norman Vincent Peale, author and minister, once asked a physician friend why he had become a doctor. The physician told him this story. As a small boy, he lived with his parents in a rural district of Kansas. In winter, the countryside lay under a deep, drifted snow, and it was difficult to travel from the family farm to town and back.

One winter, when he was about seven years old, his little sister got sick, ran a high fever, and became delirious. The little girl was near death by the time the father got a message over the nearly impassable roads and the doctor finally arrived. The doctor treated her and remained for 24 hours until the crisis passed. During that time, the whole household was in anguish. No one had a minute's sleep.

Finally, the little boy saw the doctor walk across the room and put his hands on the shoulders of his father and mother, and heard him say to them, "By the grace of God, I am happy to tell you that little Mary will get well." The boy could see the faces of his parents. He had never seen them so lighted up, so wonderfully happy, so beautiful.

"Right at that moment," said Peale's physician friend, "I decided I was going to be a doctor, so I could say things like that to people that would bring that light to their eyes, that joy to their faces."

There are many reasons, I am sure, that propelled the caregivers in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home to choose their careers. Time after time, as I meet and talk with them, I am inspired by their commitment to bring help and hope to those they serve. May God bless them, each and every one, for the mission in which they are involved.

--Beecher Hunter